COMMUNITY

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Quinceañeras a big and booming business in SE MI

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

Michigan's #1, Oldest, Largest and Only Bilingual Hispanic News • Free! ¡Gratis! • Vol. 35, #5 • **December 7, 2023**

SPORTS

Page 10 –
Wolverines Rose Bowl Bound !!!

La tradición, la cultura y la comunidad reinan en el concurso Miss México de Metro Detroit

Por Juanita Zúñiga

El certamen Miss México es una tradición del suroeste de Detroit, que se originó en 1980 y ha sido organizado por el Comité Patriótico Mexicano de Metro-Detroit, el certamen tiene todas las características de un concurso de belleza tradicional, donde las chicas aprenden a hablar en público, a caminar con tacones altos y a adoptar un estilo y elegancia atemporales.

Sin embargo, uno de los aspectos más importantes del certamen Miss México, es la creación de redes y mentoría mediante un intercambio de conocimientos, habilidades y experiencia para ayudar a las concursantes a crecer. Lisa González y Rebecca Lugo han encabezado este evento juntas durante los últimos diez años. Quieren que las jóvenes latinas terminen el certamen sintiéndose empoderadas para dar el siguiente paso en sus vidas, ya sea continuar con su educación o seguir su propia carrera.

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Daniela Diaz, representing San Ignacio Cerro Gordo, Jalisco, was crowned 2024 Miss Mexico. Photo provided by Mexican Patriotic Committee

Tradition, Culture, and Community Reign at Metro Detroit's Miss Mexico Pageant

By Juanita Zuniga

Originating in 1980, the Miss Mexico pageant is a Southwest Detroit tradition. Hosted by the Mexican Patriotic Committee of Metro-Detroit, the event has all the hallmarks of a traditional beauty pageant, such as learning public speaking, how to walk in high heels, and embracing a timeless style and elegance.

However, one of the most important aspects of the Miss Mexico pageant is the networking and mentoring through sharing their knowledge, skills, and experience to help the contestants grow. Lisa Gonzalez and Rebecca Lugo have spearheaded this event together for the last ten years. They want young Latinas to leave the pageant feeling empowered to take the next leap in their life whether that be continuing their education or pursuing their own careers.

"It [the pageant] teaches them how to be independent, it helps them develop who they are," Gonzalez said. "It's also an opportunity for them to show they love their culture and being independent Mexican women in the world. "

While inspiring them to be the future, the pageant also supports their educational careers with a scholarship awarded to the first through third place contestants. In fact, the young ladies who apply must be school-bound.

This year, the four Latinas who competed for the crown are Yeiralexy Garcia, 17, student at Western International High School; Elizabeth Maciel, 18, studying at Michigan State University; Daniela Diaz, 19, studying at Madonna University and Jessica Arabula, 24, aspiring esthetician.

The pageant examines the young contestants and how gracefully they present themselves and their culture as Mexican-American women.

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Holiday Fest!
The Christmas Spirit Comes to Life in the Mexicantown/Hubbard Richard neighborhood with Something for Everyone!
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023 3 - 8 PM
1. We the People
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3. Mexicantown Community Development Corp
4. Ford Resource & Engagement Center
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6. The Goblin
7. Blitzen's on Bagley
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9. Hrra at the Gazebo
10. Roberto Clemente Recreation Center
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Bagley/Vernor Corridor between 16th and 24th Streets

Roberto Kalb is taking music 'Beyond the Pit' as the First Mexican Conductor at the Detroit Opera House

By Amber Ogden

Roberto Kalb believes music can tell stories uniquely and powerfully. He draws from this belief to skillfully pull together narratives that captivate his listeners and transport them to a world of imagination and emotion. As the new and first Mexican to take on the role of conductor at the Detroit Opera House, he will shape the orchestra's musical identity by selecting the performance repertoire for the season—only the second person in this role after the company's founder, David DiChiera.

"I am thrilled that Roberto is joining the team at Detroit Opera," says Associate Artistic Director Christine Goerke. "His obvious love for the genre fuels his passionate conducting, one that facilitates the storytelling and drama of every work. He is an incredibly fine musician who is always able to be open to the ebb and flow of the work while also being a pillar of strength and model of leadership on the podium."

Born and raised in Mexico City, Kalb is experienced and trained in composition and conducting. Not only is he breaking new ground as the first music director to lead the orchestra in person, but he is also breaking cultural barriers. It means a lot to me because I can be an example to people, especially in this community," Kalb said.

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Roberto Kalb. Photo courtesy of Austin Richey/ and the Detroit Opera House

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Quinceañeras are a big and booming business in Southeast Michigan

Story and photos By Estefania Arellano-Bermudez

On Sunday, December 3, at The Lincoln Manor: Banquet Hall and Event Center in Lincoln Park, MI, the line to enter Expo: Quinceanera was 15 people deep. Some arrived long before the doors opened. But the cold gray weather gave way to bright, festive colors in a hall full of vendors ready to sell everything from formal ball gowns worn by young girls during a coming-of-age ceremony in Latino culture to hair, make-up, DJs, and caterers and, yes, even cowboy boots—everything it takes to plan a perfect Quinceanera.

The hall bustled with movement, full of eager teen girls and their moms shopping the different small businesses.

Mom and daughter Norma and Ashley Cisneros, whose family is from El Salvador, are planning an Enchanted Forest-themed party. She may be one of many girls who choose to do their Quinceanera during the summer months. Today, they are looking at décor and food vendors.

"It's her initiation into adolescence," said Norma Cisneros.

Similar to a sweet sixteen, Quinceañeras are often wildly extravagant affairs. There is grand décor and a big, flashy dress, but instead of bridesmaids and groomsmen, at a quinceañera, there are chambelanes and damas, which are a group of male and female friends that serve as an entourage.

Ashley may go home with the number for a baker who specializes in seven-tier cakes, or she may choose a large Cinderella-carriage cake from Pasteles Carina, a home business in Melvindale. The decisions are endless, and the planning can take over a year. Norma Cisneros has a budget of $15,000-$20,000 and a guest list of 300 people.

A Quinceañera has the same economic impact as a wedding. And, like a wedding, an entire industry is built around creating a perfect day. Dress vendors sell gowns worth anywhere from $500 on the low end to $2,500 on the high end. Though the dress is the event's centerpiece, dozens of costs are associated with the party.

Hair and makeup for the birthday girl can cost $250 at Elizabeth Beauty, a Detroit salon. A dance instructor and choreography package can go for $1,350. Depending on the equipment needed, a DJ can cost anywhere between $2,500 to $4,500.

DJ William, for example, DJs 45 Quinceaneras a year. Most of his business is Quinceaneras. "I manage five DJs and bring in $12,000 a week," DJ William said.

Décor packages start at $650. Like with any party, these ballpark estimates can vary, and the sky is the limit if you're willing to shell out the big bucks.

These parties are often the result of the Hispanic community's growing financial success. In an interview in Texas Monthly, Rachel González-Martin, a professor of Mexican American and Latina/o studies at the University of Texas at Austin and the author of the book Quinceañera Style: Social Belonging and Latinx Consumer Identities, said that many Latinos are leaning into extravagance.

"[This pushes] back on the public narrative that assumes that Latinos are working- or under-class," she said. "Latino consumption and Latino social success are on display," said González-Martin.

Most vendors agree that a large portion of their business comes from word of mouth and social media. The young women in attendance rattle off TikTok and Instagram as sources of inspiration.

The Expo, now in its sixth year, attracts thousands of visitors. Karina Lambaren, the event's planner, says. Lincoln Park has the largest Hispanic population by percentage in Michigan, according to Census.gov, making the Expo the perfect place to gauge how Latino clientele and businesses vibe off each other.

If Sunday's event is any indication, Latinos are more than willing to spend the money. These parties are as big as the dresses, but so too are the dreams of the girls wearing them.

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Estefania Arellano-Bermudez is a lifelong Detroiter. She has published in the Telegram News and believes words evoke magic.

This story was made possible by the Race and Justice Reporting Initiative. The initiative aims to build trust between the news media and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities to strengthen representative democracy.

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Apply Now for the 2024 NALAC Leadership Institute

The 2024 institute will take place from July 14 – 20, 2024, in San Antonio, Texas.

The National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures (NALAC) announces the 2024 NALAC Leadership Institute (NLI) open call for applications. The institute is a weeklong fellowship that brings non-profit arts administrators and cultural workers together from across the nation for intensive training in leadership and management capacity.

"We are thrilled to welcome our next cohort of NLI fellows to San Antonio and the NALAC network in July. We look forward to creating a space to nurture professional growth and experience impactful fellowship amongst new Latinx leaders in the arts and culture field," said Alyssa Pineda, NALAC's Leadership and Convenings Manager.

Throughout the weeklong institute, NLI faculty will guide fellows through learning sessions and workshops to facilitate professional leadership and managerial development. The Institute offers a unique space for discussion, inquiry, and long-lasting connections with non-profit art administrators and cultural workers. Additionally, fellows will have the opportunity to visit San Antonio sites to engage with local arts and culture leaders and other special guests.

Participation in the institute is open to Latina/o/x/é non-profit arts administrators and/or cultural workers based in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Alumni of the NALAC Advocacy Leadership Institute (ALI) and Intercultural Leadership Institute (ILI) are encouraged to apply!

Interested applicants are invited to attend one of the virtual support opportunities (via Zoom):

• ***Support Webinar***, Friday, December 8, 2023, from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. Central Time. Registration is required. For individuals unable to attend, the webinar will be recorded and shared on the NLI webpage at https://www.nalac.org/leadership/nalac-leadership-institute/

• ***Virtual Cafecito***, Saturday, December 16, 2023, from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. Central Time. No registration is required. Drop in for an informal meeting with NALAC staff.

The deadline to apply is Friday, December 29, 2023.

For more updates, please follow NALAC on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

The National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures (NALAC) is the nation's premier nonprofit organization exclusively dedicated to the promotion, advancement, development, and cultivation of the Latino arts field. For more information about NALAC and its programs, please visit www.nalac.org

2023 NALAC Leadership Institute Alumni. Photo provided by NALAC

Funding Available for MLK Day Volunteer Projects

To honor the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. the Michigan Community Service Commission is offering funding for volunteer projects that address community needs across the state.

The Michigan Community Service Commission will award grants ranging from $100 to $1,000. The projects will engage thousands of Michigan volunteers. The Michigan Community Service Commission believes that volunteer involvement is key to overcoming and building thriving communities.

"Volunteering is a great way to lift all of our spirits, while also carrying forward the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.," said Ginna Holmes, executive director of the Michigan Community Service Commission. "We are looking forward to partnering with organizations across the state and seeing the impact they make in strengthening communities."

Complete grant applications should be received by December 13, 2023. Projects should be held between Jan. 5 and Jan. 22, 2024. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

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Clark Park
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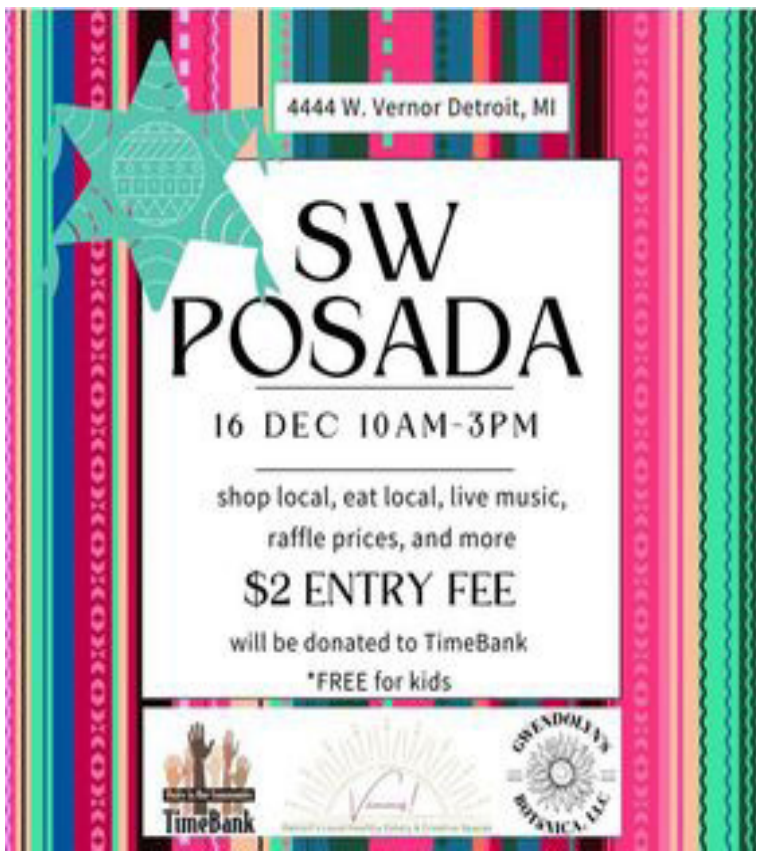
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Roberto Kalb, First Mexican Conductor, at the DOH

Con't from pg. 1

Kalb made his Detroit Opera conducting debut in the 2017–18 season with Ricky Ian Gordon's 27, for which he also arranged a reduced orchestration. His most recent appearance was in April 2022, when he led Sharon's reverse-chronology production of La bohème. In addition to his work with Detroit Opera, Kalb has roots in Detroit and the state of Michigan: he holds a degree from the University of Michigan and previously worked as cover assistant conductor for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Moved by being able to tell stories in a medium that includes many art forms, Kalb says, "We get to tell stories with costumes, makeup, lighting, drama, music, and beautiful singing. I love making music for other people", Kalb said.

As part of its commitment to being present in Detroit's communities, Kalb will be presenting the concert, Beyond The Pit, on December 16th at Western High School in Southwest Detroit that will include Mendelssohn's-Hebrides Overture, Mozart's "Mandina Amabile, and Verdi's Romanze, to name a few. It will be the first of its kind to be performed.

The concert is open to the Latino community and features five resident artists at the Detroit Opera House: two baritones, one tenor, one soprano, and one mezzo.

As for the repertoire in this concert, Kalb is thrilled about all the musical pieces and has programmed them accordingly. Looking ahead, other exciting things will also come later in the season at the Detroit Opera House.

"It's a real privilege to come up with an orchestra like the one we have. And I think I've said to other people before, but it feels like you're making magic on the spot," Kalb said.

******

Beyond the Pit. December 16th , 7:30 pm. Western International High School (located across the street from Clark Park) 1500 Scotten St, Detroit, MI 48209

Free to the Public: https://detroitopera.org/season-schedule/beyond-the-pit/

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Amber Ogden is a freelance writer born and raised in Detroit.

Roberto Kalb photo provided by Simon Pauly/ and the Detroit Opera House (DOH)

She has published work in Forbes, Chevy in the D, Model D, and Rachel Ray Every Day. She enjoys art, culture, and eating through the city in her free time.

This story was made possible by the Race and Justice Reporting Initiative. The goal of the initiative is to build trust between the news media and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities and strengthen representative democracy.

AG Nessel Launches New Consumer Protection Website, Holiday Scams Campaign

AG Nessel Launches New Consumer Protection Website, Holiday Scams Campaign

With the holidays in full swing, Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel is launching a new consumer protection website and holiday campaign to help protect Michigan residents from common consumer scams during the winter holiday season.

With the launch of Attorney General Nessel's annual Holiday Scam Campaign, the Department is also launching a new Consumer Protection website and logo! The website now includes:

• a new search tool to make finding consumer alerts and charities faster and easier;

• a page dedicated to common scams;

• the Michigan Identity Theft Support page and resources to detect and report identity theft for consumers and businesses alike; and

• educational videos from Attorney General Nessel, the Federal Trade Commission, and other trusted resources.

To help drive traffic to the new website and engage Generation-Z users, the Department's Meta-based social media pages will use interactive stories to test users' knowledge and deliver additional tips. Michigan residents who follow the department's Instagram page and share at least five Instagram Stories will qualify for the drawing to win a $25 gift card.

There is no purchase or entry fee required in order to win, and residents are not required to be present at a State office or event to win. The winner must be a resident of the state and their name will be randomly drawn from qualified users.

Beginning on Black Friday and continuing through late-December, the Attorney General's website and social media channels will focus on educating consumers on 23 varying tactics commonly used to cheat consumers out of their funds during the holidays.

Follow the Department's official Instagram page for a chance to win. For the most up-to-date consumer news and holiday alerts, subscribe to the department's consumer alerts at www.mi.gov/consumerprotection

EL CENTRAL
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El Central informs and celebrates Metro Detroit's Hispanic and Latino/a community and Southwest Detroit in particular and supports the professional development of local reporters and photographers who seek to enter the journalism profession.

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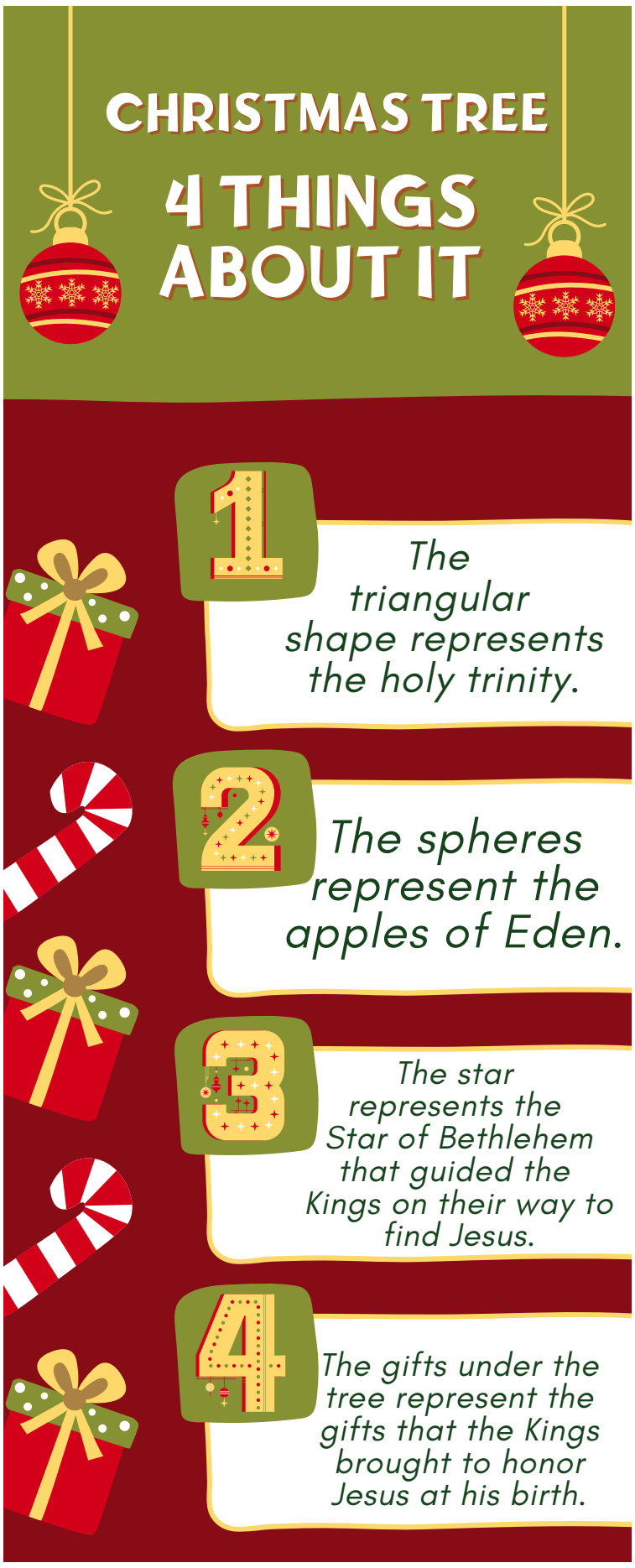
Christmas


CHRISTMAS TREE
4 THINGS ABOUT IT
1
The triangular shape represents the holy trinity.
2
The spheres represent the apples of Eden.
3
The star represents the Star of Bethlehem that guided the Kings on their way to find Jesus.
4
The gifts under the tree represent the gifts that the Kings brought to honor Jesus at his birth.

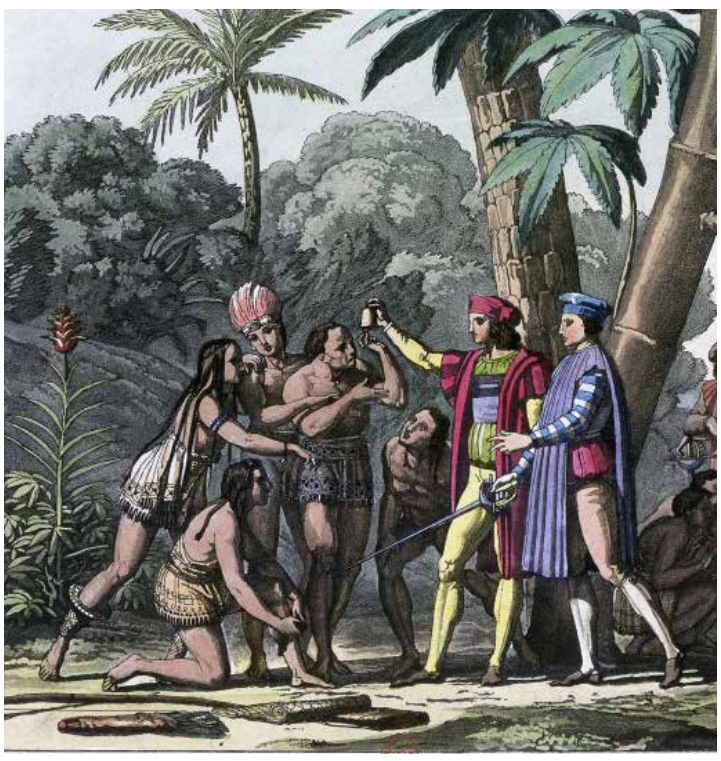
Song: La Guadalupana (The Virgin)

From heaven, one beautiful morning
the Virgin of Guadalupe descended to Tepeyac
Her arrival brought happiness,
light and harmony and freedom
to all in Anahuac.
When Juan Diego passed through the mountain
and drew closer when he heard it sung:
"Juan Diego" the Virgin said:
"This is the hill I've chosen
for my altar to be built."
With her hands clasped together,
She was of Mexican descent
she was of Mexican descent in both her face
and demeanor
Among the painted roses of the tilma
she deemed to leave behind
her beloved image
As of then, to be a Guadalupan
was something essential
for the Mexican people
For their sorrows they kneel
and elevates their gaze
and elevates their gaze towards Tepeyac
Dearest mother of all the people of Mexico
who are thou in heaven, pray for us to God
who are thou in heaven
who are thou in heaven, pray for us to God

Christmas

Celebrating Christmas is not a new celebration, since many of the symbols of tradition come from the German Catholic empire, such as Christmas carols, the tree, the spheres.

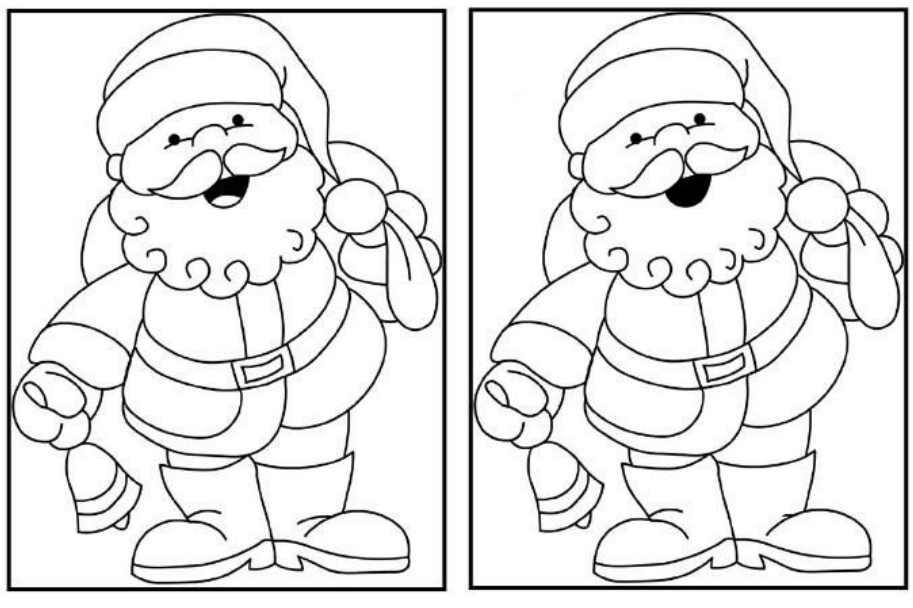
The word Christmas comes from the Mass of Christ in order to celebrate the birth of Jesus, although some historians continue to debate the exact date, it is important to recognize the two dates, one being December 25, recognized by the Roman Catholic Church, the Orthodox Church, the Christian churches. Protestants. However, in the some eastern regions, the date of his birth on January 6.



For almost 2,000 years the Basilica of the Nativity located in Bethlehem, Palestine has been visited in Bethlehem, however, this year will be the first in which it is not celebrated due to the attacks in the West Bank by the state of Israel.

On the American continent, the celebrations for the birth of Jesus Christ arrived in 1492 with Columbus's crew of caravels: The Niña, the Pinta and the Santa María set anchor to disembark on the island of Hispaniola or Hispaniola, where Haiti is currently located. and Dominican Republic.

Spot the 5 differences!!



Tell them you saw it in Diles que lo viste en
EL CENTRAL

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

La navidad

La navidad

Festejar la navidad no es una celebración nueva, pues gran parte de los símbolos de la tradición provienen del imperio germano católico, como son los villancicos, el árbol, las esferas.

La palabra Navidad viene del latín Nativitas que refiere al nacimiento de Jesús. Aunque algunos historiadores siguen

debatiéndose la fecha exacta, las dos fechas reconocidas son el 25 de diciembre por la iglesia católico romana, la iglesia ortodoxa, las iglesias cristiano-protestantes. Sin embargo, para la iglesia ortodoxa rusa y la iglesia ortodoxa de Jerusalén, así como en otras regiones de oriente se toma la fecha del 6 de enero en Belén de Judea.

Desde hace casi 2,000 años la Basílica de la Natividad ubicada en Belén, Palestina ha sido visitada en Belén, sin embargo, este año será el primero en que no se festeje debido los ataque en Cisjordania por parte del estado de Israel.

En el continente americano las celebraciones por el nacimiento de Jesucristo llegaron en 1492 con la tripulación de Colón de las carabelas: La Niña, la Pinta y la Santa María pusieron anclas para desembarcar en la isla la Hispaniola o la Española, donde actualmente se encuentran Haití y República Dominicana. Al llegar el grupo de Cristobal Colón se instalaron en la Española, donde en una de sus costas construyeron con los restos de la barca la Santa María, el fuerte La Navidad, desde donde partió el 2 de enero en 1493 Cristobal Colón de regreso a Europa.

4 COSAS SOBRE ÁRBOL DE NAVIDAD
1
La forma triangular representa la santísima trinidad.
2
Los adornos circulares, representan las manzanas del edén.
3
La estrella representa la Estrella de Belén que guio a los Reyes en su camino a encontrar a Jesús
4
Los regalos bajo el árbol representan los regalos que llevaron los Reyes para honrar a Jesús en su nacimiento.

¡¡Encuentra las 5 diferencias!!

Espera nuestro Especial Semanal
CULTURAS LATINOAMERICANAS,
by Mariana Ayón RV

Canción: La Guadalupana

Desde el cielo una hermosa mañana,
desde el cielo una hermosa mañana
La Guadalupana, la Guadalupana,
la Guadalupana bajo al Tepeyac (bis).
Suplicante juntaba sus manos,
suplicante juntaba sus manos.
Y eran mexicanos, y eran mexicanos,
y eran mexicanos su porte y su faz (bis).
Su llegada llenó de alegría, su llegada llenó de alegría
de luz y armonía, de luz y armonía,
de luz y armonía todo el Anahuac (bis).
Junto al monte pasaba Juan Diego,
junto al monte pasaba Juan Diego,
Y acercose luego, y acercose luego,
y acercose luego al oír cantar (bis).
Juan Dieguito la Virgen le dijo,
Juan Dieguito la Virgen le dijo,
este cerro elijo, este cerro elijo,
este cerro elijo para hacer mi altar (bis).
Y en la tilma entre rosas pintadas,
y en la tilma, entre rosas pintadas
Su imagen amada, su imagen amada,
su imagen amada se dignó dejar (bis).
Desde entonces para el mexicano,
desde entonces par el mexicano
ser Guadalupano, ser Guadalupano, ser Guadalupano
es algo esencial (bis).

Metro Detroit's Miss Mexico Pageant

Con't from pg. 1

All Miss Mexico photos provided Mexican Patriotic Committee

But, before they can walk across that big stage and be crowned Miss Mexico, the girls practice and prepare for more than a month. They practice how to walk, how to talk, and how they plans to represent their Mexican State.

"We've gotten a couple of girls who are very shy. When they come in and they're like, 'oh, I don't know if I could do this' or we always get one that doesn't know how to walk in heels yet,' Gonzalez said. "I tell them, let's walk through this, you have my phone number on hand, so if you ever need anything or have doubts, contact me and I can always meet them. I encourage all the girls to do their best."

Gonzalez and Lugo work as pageant coaches. They have the girls rehearse their routines one-by-one. They provide them with feedback while also encouraging them to push themselves beyond their comfort zone and claim their space on stage. The contestants know that for whatever they need in this process, they can count on Gonzalez and Lugo to guide them.

"I had one young lady who didn't even place anywhere, but she came back years later and told me, 'thank you for everything you've shown me. It has really helped me in the future. I'm able to do so much more and know where I'm needed in my community,'" said Lugo.

At the end of the night after every category is completed, the new Miss Mexico is crowned. This year's Pageant was held on Saturday, December 2 at the Prestige Banquet Hall in Allen Park. This year's Miss Mexico, Daniela Diaz who represented San Ignacio Cerro Gordo, Jalisco.

Some of Diaz's responsibilities as Miss Mexico include attending meetings for the Mexican Patriotic Committee, participating in community events like the Cinco de Mayo Parade and El Grito. But her most important responsibility will be connecting with the community and learning what it means to be a community leader.

****

Juanita Zuniga is a graduate of Kalamazoo College with a degree in Anthropology/Sociology and English. She was born and raised in SW Detroit and still resides here today. She is very passionate about her community and hopes to serve her community through writing. Juanita is a Latin history and music enthusiast in her spare time. She is also a Cancer Sun, Libra Moon, and Cancer Rising.

This story was made possible by the Race and Justice Reporting Initiative. The goal of the initiative is to build trust between the news media and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities and strengthen representative democracy.

(L-R) Jessica Arambula, 24, 2nd Runner up; Alexandra Velasco, 19, Miss Mexico 2023; Daniela Diaz,19, Miss Mexico 2024; Elizabeth Maciel,18, First Runner up and Yeiralexy Garcia, 17, 3rd Runner up

Jessica Arambula, 24, representing San Ignacio Cerro Gordo Jalisco

Detroit Opera

Yuval Sharon, Gary L. Wasserman Artistic Director
Christine Goerke, Associate Artistic Director
Roberto Kalb, Music Director

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Concurso Miss México de Metro Detroit

Con't de pg. 1

"El concurso les enseña a ser independientes, les ayuda a desarrollar quiénes son", dijo González. "También es una oportunidad para que le demuestren al mundo que están orgullosas de su cultura y de ser mujeres mexicanas independientes. "

Mientras las inspira a ser el futuro, el concurso también apoya su educación profesional, con una beca otorgada a las ganadoras del primero al tercer lugar. De hecho, las jóvenes que presenten su solicitud deben estar escolarizadas.

Este año, las cuatro latinas que compitieron por la corona fueron Yeiralexy García, de 17 años, estudiante de Western International High School; Elizabeth Maciel, de 18 años, que estudia en la Universidad de Wayne State; Daniela Díaz, 19 años, estudia en la Universidad Madonna y Jessica Arabula, 24 años, aspirante a esteticista.

El concurso evalúa cómo las jóvenes se presentan con gracia y demuestran su cultura como mujeres mexicanas-estadounidenses.

Pero, antes de poder cruzar ese gran escenario y elegir a Miss México, las chicas practican y se preparan durante más de un mes, aprendiendo a caminar, a hablar y definiendo cómo quieren representar a su Estado mexicano.

"Siempre tenemos un par de chicas que son muy tímidas. Cuando entran y dicen, 'no sé si voy a poder hacerlo' o siempre nos encontramos con una que todavía no sabe caminar en tacones", dijo González. "Les digo, repasemos esto, tienen mi número de teléfono a la mano, así que, si alguna vez necesitan algo o tienen dudas, comuníquese conmigo y siempre puedo atenderlas. Animo a todas las chicas a que hagan lo mejor que puedan".

Lisa y Rebecca trabajan como asesoras de concursos. Hacen que las chicas ensayen sus rutinas una por una; les brindan retroalimentación y al mismo tiempo las alientan a esforzarse más allá de su zona de confort y reclamar su espacio en el escenario. Las concursantes saben que para lo que necesiten en este proceso, pueden contar con ellas para guiarlas.

"Tuve una joven que no ganó ningún lugar en el concurso, pero regresó años después y me dijo: 'gracias por todo lo que me ha enseñado, pues realmente me ha ayudado mucho. Puedo hacer mucho más y saber dónde me necesitan en mi comunidad'", comentó Rebecca.

Al final de la noche, una vez completadas todas las categorías, se corona a la nueva Miss México. El desfile de este año se llevó a cabo el sábado 2 de diciembre en el Prestige Banquet Hall en Allen Park. Miss México de este año es Daniela Díaz quien representó a San Ignacio Cerro Gordo, Jalisco.

Algunas de las responsabilidades de la Señorita Díaz como Miss México incluyen su asistencia en las reuniones del Comité Patriótico Mexicano y la participación en eventos comunitarios como el Desfile del Cinco de Mayo y El Grito. Pero su responsabilidad más importante será conectarse con la comunidad y aprender lo que significa ser un líder comunitario.

****

Juanita Zúñiga se graduó de la Universidad de Kalamazoo, con una licenciatura en Antropología, Sociología e Inglés. Nació y creció en el suroeste de Detroit donde todavía reside. Está apasionada por su comunidad y espera servirla a través de la escritura. Juanita se emociona con la historia y la música latina en su tiempo libre. Ella también es Sol de Cáncer, Luna de Libra y Cáncer Ascendente.

Esta historia fue posible gracias a Race and Justice Reporting Initiative. El objetivo de la iniciativa es generar confianza entre los medios de comunicación y las comunidades negras, indígenas y de color y fortalecer la democracia representativa.

Traducción por Carmen Elena Luna

Miss Mexico 2024 contestants in the native dress of their home states in Mexico, from left, Yeiralexy García, 17 years old, representing Reynosa Tamaulipas; Alexandra Velasco-Cruz, 20 years old, Miss Mexico 2023, representing the state of Oaxaca; Daniela Diaz, 19 years old, Miss México 2024 representing San Ignacio Cerro Gordo, Jalisco; Elizabeth Maciel, 18, representing el estado de Michoacán and Jessica Arambula, 24, representing San Ignacio Cerro Gordo Jalisco

Alexandra Velasco-Cruz, 20 years old, Miss Mexico 2023, representing the state of Oaxaca

Yeiralexy García, 17 years old, representing Reynosa Tamaulipas

Daniela Diaz, Miss Mexico 2024, celebrates the beginning of her reign

Wolverines Rose Bowl Bound !!!

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

The #1 University of Michigan Wolverines (13-0, 9-0 Big Ten conference, previously #2) defated the Iowa Hawkeyes (10-3, 7-2 Big Ten Conference), 26-0, to win the Big Ten Championship for the third straight year.

This was Jim Harbaugh's return to the sideline, after serving a 3 game suspension, over sign stealing allegations against the University of Michigan Wolverines.

The Wolverines will take on #4 Alabama Crimson Tide, in the Rose Bowl, on Monday, January 1st, 2024, at 5:00 pm (ESPN), during the CFP Semifinal game.

The winner from this game will go to the CFP National Championship game on Monday, January 8th, 2024, at 7:30 pm (ESPN).

Photos below are highlights from the Big Ten Championship game between the Wolverines and Hawkeyes

Photo by Suzie C. Baker

Wolverines co-captin OL #65 Zak Zinter enters field for the Big Ten Championship. Zinter was hurt during the Ohio State Buckeyes game. Zinter was represented the Michigan football team, by accepting the Big Ten Championship trophy from Tony Petitti after the game

Wolverines head coach Jim Harbaugh celebrates the Big Ten Championship, with his Wolverines after defeating the Hawkeyes 26-0. Wolverines DB #0 Mike Sainristil was given Griffin-Grange MVP trophy

Wolverines RB #2 Blake Corum scores a TD against the Hawkeyes. Corum had 16 carries for 52 yards with 2 TDs and 3 receptions for 10 yards.

Blake Corum also eclipsed the 1,000-yard mark in the game (had 976 entering), becoming the first Wolverine with back-to-back 1,000-yard rushing seasons since Denard Robinson in 2010 (1,702), 2011 (1,176), and 2012 (1,266).

Corum added to his already-established single-season record of 22 rushing touchdowns (entering) with two more scores, setting a new Michigan benchmark with 24 rushing touchdowns this season. He remains the only FBS player to score in each game this season.

Corum had 55 career rushing touchdowns, this season, and is tied with Anthony Thomas (55) for the most career rushing touchdowns in program history. Corum will surpase Thomas with a touchdown in the Rose Bowl and set a new record in program history.

Wolverines freshman WR Semaj Morgan, running the ball back 87 yards during a punt return, and set up the Wolverines at the Iowa Hawkeyes 5 yard line, and a Wolverine TD two plays after

Wolverines headcoach Jim Harbaugh leads his Wolverines onto the field for the first time, for the Big Ten Championship, after serving a 3 game suspension for sign stealing allegations against the Wolverines (by the Big Ten)

DETROIT CITY NAMES DANNY DICHIO NEW MANAGER

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS Pateando la No. 5
SPORTS

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

After five seasons in charge of Detroit City, Trevor James became Sporting Director at the club following the end of the playoffs. He will have oversight of the entire sporting operation, men and women, from the first teams down through the youth programs. As the men's team prepared for the playoffs, James had to begin the process of finding his successor. The club had hoped to have a new first team manager in place prior to the end of 2023 and made good on that by naming Danny Dichio the fourth manager in the club's history.

"My family and I are thrilled to be joining Detroit City FC and the community of Detroit. This is a unique club with great leadership, and I can't tell you how excited I am to get started with the group and build on the recent success of Detroit City Football Club," said Dichio.

Dichio comes from West London, where he grew up as part of Queen's Park Rangers, a community based club like DCFC, from the age of nine. He played for and scored for the club in the Premier League. After a fifteen year professional career in the top two divisions of English football including time at Sunderland, Millwall, and Preston North End, he joined Toronto FC for their inaugural season in 2007. He remains a club legend there after scoring the TFC's first goal in MLS.

Following his retirement, he was one of Toronto's top academy coaches for over ten years years. Under his guidance, the TFC academy became a top producer of talent in Canada. He left Canada in 2022 for a new opportunity as an assistant with the Sacramento Republic. Sacramento finished the 2023 season as the top team in the Western Conference of the USL Championship. They ended up losing in the conference final to the Phoenix Rising, who won the playoff tournament championship.

Bringing in a former Premier League striker to lead the team appears to indicate that the club will be making moves to improve their attacking options, attacking approach, and ideally offensive output. DCFC finished at the bottom of the league in goals scored and didn't create enough chances for the strikers in the team, much to the frustration of the home fans.

Now, Dichio and James have to get down to the business of roster construction. There are openings to fill and most importantly a new contract of number one goalkeeper Nate Steinwascher to sort out. His backup, Ryan Shellow is also out of contract, but could return. Dario Suarez's contract expired. Richard Ballard, Adrian Billhardt, Oneil Fisher, and Jalen Robinson had their options declined. That leaves a significant majority of the squad from last season intact. Given DCFC has a lower budget than some of the top clubs in the division, such as Sacramento, Dichio will be trying to get more from largely the same group than James could get in 2023. During a meet and greet with the supporters, Dichio and James indicated that player recruitment will be done over the course of the next month, so that the team is ready to begin preseason early next year.

Dichio will have to pay a lot of attention to the attack. The forwards and attacking midfielders simply didn't pose enough of the a threat to opponents. The team could also use some improvement in set piece organization. Frankly, anything that makes the team more of a threat going forward will be welcome.

Dichio indicated during his Q&A that he will be working on a new system during preseason, but will make adjustments if he finds it's not working as well as he hopes.

The USL Championship kicks of in mid-March, so Dichio will have roughly six weeks with the team to prepare for his first season as a first team manager. It will be interesting to see his philosophy at work. He told the supporters that he wants to be on the front foot and take the game to the opposition. When Sacramento came to Keyworth in 2022, they dominated proceedings like few other visiting teams have here, leaving with a comfortable 2-0, having played DCFC off their own field. If Dichio can get Detroit City to play with that kind of intense pressing and attacking proficiency, the Northern Guard is going to need a lot more smoke canisters in 2024.

Jim Leyland Going Into National Baseball Hall of Fame

Detroit Tigers, former head coach, Jim Leyland will be going into the National Baseball Hall of Fame Class of 2024.

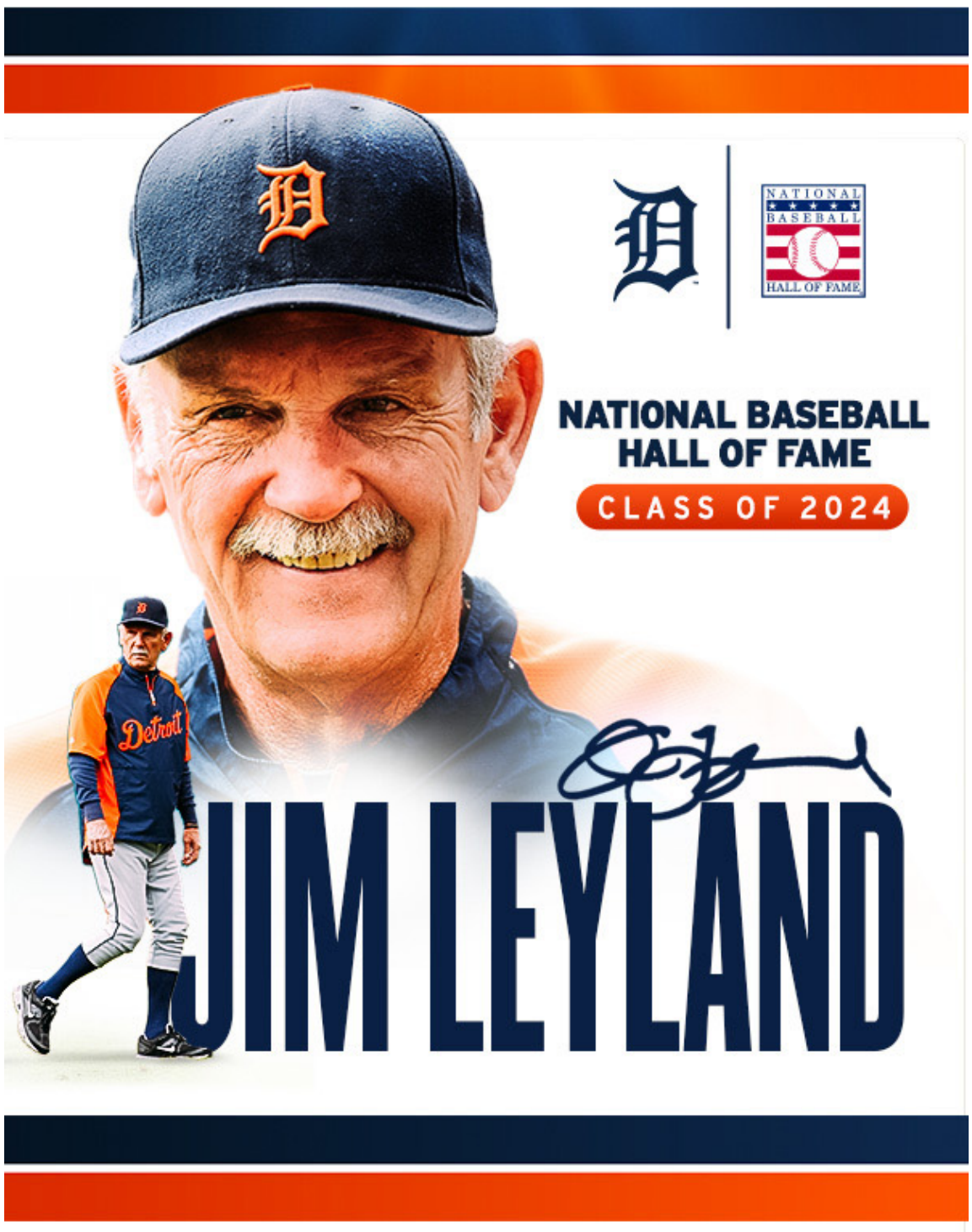
Leyland led the Florida Marlins to the 1997 World Series championship over the Cleveland Indians, and previously won three straight division titles (1990, 1991, and 1992) with the Pittsburgh Pirates. He is one of eleven managers to lead three different teams to the postseason. With the Tigers' victory in the 2006 American League Championship Series, Leyland became the seventh manager in history to win pennants in both the National and American Leagues.

Leyland is a three-time Manager of the Year Award winner, twice in the National League (1990 and 1992), and once in the American League (2006). He managed the United States national team at the 2017 World Baseball Classic, leading the team to its first gold medal finish. On December 3, 2023, Leyland was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

Jim Leyland career; Pittsburgh Pirates 11 years (851 wins, 863 loses, .496%), Florida Marlins 2 years (146 wins, 178 loses, .451%), Colorado Rockies 1 years (72 wins, 90 loses, .444%), Detroit Tigers 8 years (700 wins, 597 loses, .540%), source Baseball Reference.

Leyland managed Florida to its first World Series title and Detroit to two A.L. (American League) pennants.

Photos courtesy of the Detroit Tigers



EDITORIAL OPINION

"Nothing, Nada to My Political Party"

By Raoul Lowery Contreras

The Republican National Committee phone number popped up on my Smartphone the other evening. The committee's people call me several times a year; they've done so since I made my first contribution - $25 - the year I voted for the first time in 1962.

I told the woman that I wasn't getting personal against her but I would not donate and repeated my reasons why as I have done since election night 2020. My spigot that had grown larger than the $25 I first donated was turned off; turned off because the idiot President Trump had lied to the American people Election Night when he claimed to have won the election.

Let me explain why by recounting some of my own political experience that started when I was in the 7th grade arguing with my Social Studies teacher who had a "Stevenson for President" bumper sticker on her car and I wore an "I Like Ike" (Dwight David Eisenhower) button. I was eleven years old.

Specifically, let's look at 1962. The year I worked as San Diego County campaign coordinator for United States Senator Thomas H. Kuchel.

I was contacting previous and new donors for checks that I picked up

personally so I could meet them. They were the men and women who ran San Diego. I met them all and dealt with them politically up to and including today, 61 years later.

One leader turned out to be very important in my life. He was Democrat Sol Price, Esquire; besides being a night school lawyer he founded a membership-only retail company called Fed-Mart. The day I met him he handed me his check and told me to call him if we needed more. It was for $500. I looked at it and said, "Mr. Price, why don't you save me a trip and make it a thousand?

He looked at me and laughed: "You've got balls, young man." When the campaign was over, he hired me at Fed-Mart calling me the "House Republican." I started in the warehouse loading trucks and unloading freight cars.

A year later I was working in the 1964 Presidential campaign so I wasn't with his company when he sold it to a giant German company and returned to practicing law.

Election night 1962 there was one huge lesson I learned and it involved Sol Price. San Diego County is the size of Connecticut. It had 5 state legislative districts but only one state senate seat. This was

a year before the Baker v. Tennessee "one man, one vote" case was decided by the U.S. Supreme Court. It mandated that all legislative districts in all states must consist of equal amounts of population.

All 2100 precincts packed their paper ballots in boxes and handed them to sheriff deputies who drove them to the county building. Some of these ballots traveled over 80 miles. That takes time.

As numbers were posted, votes were counted and posted in four of the closest districts, absentees were counted but nothing from District 80. I was watching all this when Sol Price came up to me and asked why there were no votes from District 80 being posted. He wanted to know because the only state senator in San Diego was a close friend of his, Democrat State Senator Hugo Fisher. He was running for reelection.

Price and I watched returns as they came in. When 10% votes were posted I turned to Mr. Price, "Sorry, but your friend is going to lose."

"How can you tell, only 10% are in."

"Those are the closest votes geographically and he's only getting 20% of those, they are probably from El Cajon, a city of 25,000. The rest of the district is in the boonies. That's where Republicans are the strongest. He's breaking even in the other districts so assuming he continues to get no more than 30% of the 80's vote, he loses. He lost. Lesson learned? There are always late counted votes.

Fifteen years later (circa 1978) I went shopping at the new company he started after selling FedMart for millions of dollars. The new company -- The Price Club, now known as COSTCO.

What President Trump experienced in 2020 vote counting was similar to Senator Fisher's 1962 experience.

Inner cities have problems that are different but similar in time consumption. White working class districts and Black and/or Hispanic precincts are generally less educated, less well lit and are neighborhoods with lesser infrastructure and public safety.

No contributions since Election Night of 2020 with heavy reinforcement from what I saw happen in Washington D.C. on January 6, 2021, That plus all of what happened after Congressman Kevin McCarthy handed over his spine to the idiot who told the country he had won the election because he led in votes counted at midnight with 50-60 percent of the votes still to be counted, I quit giving money to the GOP..

I have refused to contribute a dime to a party that pledges any support for the idiot who does not understand how elections work, nor brags that he -- as President of the U.S. -- doesn't have any "duty" to "support and defend" the United States Constitution.

Nothing, nada.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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Regala Algo Maravilloso

Pon Algo de Juego en Tus Vacaciones

Divertidos para regalar y fantásticos para recibir, los Holiday Instants añaden más que una pequeña maravilla a sus regalos. A todo el mundo le encanta rascar y jugar para tener la oportunidad de ganar hasta $500,000 al instante. Este año, regala algo maravilloso con Holiday Instants de la Lotería de Michigan.

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MICHIGAN LOTTERY™

Nominations Encouraged for Michigan Lottery's Excellence in Education Awards to Honor Outstanding Educators

The Michigan Lottery is celebrating 10 years of recognizing outstanding educators with the 2023-24 Excellence in Education awards. During the program's 10 years, the Michigan Lottery has recognized more than 300 public-school educators across Michigan and highlighted the impact they have in their respective communities.

Nominations are currently open, and parents, students, school staff members, and others are encouraged to nominate outstanding public-school educators for awards. All public-school employees may be nominated for the awards, which recognize educators who go "above and beyond" to make a difference in the lives of children. To nominate a public-school educator, go to https://www.michiganlottery.com/excellenceineducation.

"Public-school educators play a critical role in our students' lives by serving as role models, offering encouragement and motivation, and teaching critical skills that prepare Michigan's students for future success," said Acting Lottery Commissioner, Jessica Weare. "The Lottery's Excellence in Education awards shine a light on dedicated educators who go above and beyond for their students and inspire them to reach their full potential."

The Michigan Lottery established the Excellence in Education awards in 2014 to recognize outstanding public-school educators across the state during the school year.

One outstanding educator will be selected each week and will receive a $2,000 cash prize. At the end of the school year, one of these weekly award winners will be selected to receive the Lottery's Educator of the Year award and will receive a $10,000 cash prize.

Winners of the weekly award are featured in a news segment on the Lottery's media partner stations: WXYZ-TV in Detroit, FOX 17 in Grand Rapids, FOX 47 in Lansing, WNEM-TV in Saginaw, and WWTV-TV in Traverse City.

The winner of the 2023 Educator of the Year award was Kathryn Kluzak, a kindergarten teacher at Robert L. Green Elementary in East Lansing.

Hundreds of educators were nominated during the 2022-23 school year, which was the ninth year of the Excellence in Education awards program. Thirty-four of these nominees, including Kluzak, were selected to win a weekly award.

Previous winners of the Educator of the Year award:

• 2022 – Spencer Vanderheide, a high school teacher with Kenowa Hills High School in Grand Rapids.

• 2021 – Janice Smith, a school social worker at Fisher Magnet Lower Academy in Detroit.

• 2020 – Megan Sidge, an Autism Spectrum Disorder teacher at Hickory Woods Elementary in Walled Lake.

• 2019 – Stewart Kieliszewski, an Earth science, biology, mechatronics, and media teacher for eighth through 12 graders at the Ubly Community Schools.

• 2018 – Kerri Moccio, a first-grade literacy intervention specialist at Bedford Elementary School in Dearborn Heights.

• 2017 – Linda Holzwarth, a social studies teacher at Portage West Middle School in Portage.

• 2016 – Daniel Carr, a Spanish and sports marketing teacher at Waverly High School in Lansing.

• 2015 – Michael Craig, a special education teacher at the Charles Drew Transition Center in Detroit.

Excellence In Education award nominees should demonstrate the following qualities:

• Excellence – Their work consistently helps students and/or their schools or school districts advance to higher levels of academic achievement.

• Dedication – They consistently go above and beyond expectations to help students succeed.

• Inspiration – Their work inspires others around them to exceed expectations either academically or professionally.

• Leadership – They demonstrate clear leadership skills in their positions with their school or school districts.

• Effectiveness – The nominee's work has clear and positive results on the educational advancement of students within the school or school district.

Salud/*Health*

Winter Comfort Hacks for Contact Lens Wearers

(StatePoint) One in five contact lens wearers find lenses to be less comfortable by the end of the day. If that describes you, you may already know that cold air, wind, and indoor heating, especially during winter, can bring additional challenges.

The good news? It doesn't have to be that way. From your morning coffee to post-work happy hour (or gym session), you can help your lenses go the distance in cool weather with these comfort hacks:

1. Control indoor air: Indoor heating reduces humidity, which can result in a drying effect on the lenses. You can help ease the resulting discomfort by turning down the thermostat a bit and by using a humidifier. These days, there are portable mini humidifier models, so it is easy to run one in most rooms or even to bring one to the workplace.

2. Protect winter eyes: Whether you're building a snowman with the kids or enjoying a frosty winter walk in the neighborhood, cold air and wind can dry out the surface of your contact lenses. Add a layer of protection from the elements by wearing UV-blocking sunglasses before stepping outdoors.

3. Follow directions: Whether you gave a huge presentation at work or stayed out a bit too late with friends, it's tempting to fast-track your bedtime routine at the end of a long day, especially as the winter days get shorter and darker. When it comes to contact lens care though, shortcuts like reducing rubbing and rinsing times, or topping off solution mean your lenses aren't getting proper care. Follow the instructions carefully, no matter how exhausted you are, and always remove your lenses before falling asleep.

4. Clean and moisturize: Contact lens wearers who wear contacts that are replaced weekly, biweekly, or monthly may attribute various challenges to wearing their lenses during the winter season, including dryness and irritation. However, using a contact lens solution that conditions and hydrates lenses can help with all-day comfort. Choose a multi-purpose solution recommended by board-certified optometrists that's uniquely formulated for dry, uncomfortable contact lenses, such as Biotrue Hydration Plus Multi-Purpose Solution. Offering exceptional cleaning and disinfection, and dissolving protein build-up, it's formulated with your eyes' biology in mind to promote all-day hydration. In fact, it keeps more moisture on your contacts (for 12 hours compared to the original Biotrue Multi-Purpose Solution, based on a laboratory study) as well as provides up to 20 hours of moisture (based on a laboratory study). For more information and complete use instructions, visit biotrue.com.

5. Pack right for holiday and winter travel: Long flights and dry cabin air can leave contact lenses feeling dry. Biotrue Hydration Plus Multi-Purpose Solution also comes in a convenient travel-sized bottle and meets TSA regulations as a medically necessary liquid, so it can be easily tossed into your carry-on to equip your contacts for comfort. And to provide instant moisture and comfort to lenses, try using Biotrue Hydration Boost Contact Lens Drops, a preservative-free hydrating formula enhanced with bio-inspired ingredients.

6. Take inventory of your habits: Are you enjoying increased screen time as you spend more time indoors? Be sure to practice self-care and take regular screen breaks. Every 20 minutes, look 20 feet away for 20 seconds.

By employing these lens-related comfort hacks, you can help contacts feel comfortable this winter, and beyond.

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DONATE A TOY AND HAVE YOUR PHOTO TAKEN WITH BLAKE CORUM AND U OF M FOOTBALL STARS
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LEGO, BUILD-A-BEAR AND TOYS R US WILL BE MATCHING UP TO THE FIRST 100 TOYS WITH A VALUE OF UP TO $25 PER TOY.
BLAKE WILL NOT BE SIGNING ANY ITEMS/MEMORABILIA
CHAMPIONS CIRCLE
MICHIGAN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
SOMERSET COLLECTION

Blake Corum will be joined by several of his teammates during the event, and fans who bring a toy to donate will have the opportunity to take a photo with some of their favorite Wolverines.
What: BC2 Holiday Toy Drive
When: Saturday, December 9th
Where: Somerset Collection - 2800 West Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48084
Who: Blake Corum joined by several Michigan teammates, including Mike Sainristil, Donovan Edwards, Zak Zinter, Mike Barrett, Rod Moore, Colston Loveland, and more!

“OBAMACARE EN ESPAÑOL”
¡¡Ya comenzó la inscripción. No pierdes la oportunidad!!
• Proteja su salud y la de su familia!
• Los costos más bajos del mercado!
Actua ahora
DEL 1 DE NOVIEMBRE AL 15 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2023
Llame para obtener información
MI 313-470-0430
FL 305-559-9870
LSC INSURANCE & IMMIGRATION
LIBERTY SERVICE CENTERS
LLAMA A
Alina Fallat

PUEDE QUE HAYAMOS SEGUIDO ADELANTE, PERO EL COVID-19 NO.

VACÚNATE.

REFUÉRZATE.

MANTENTE AL DÍA.

1.866.610.3885

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WAYNE COUNTY MICHIGAN — EXECUTIVE — WARREN C. EVANS — SERVING 43 COMMUNITIES

Public Health